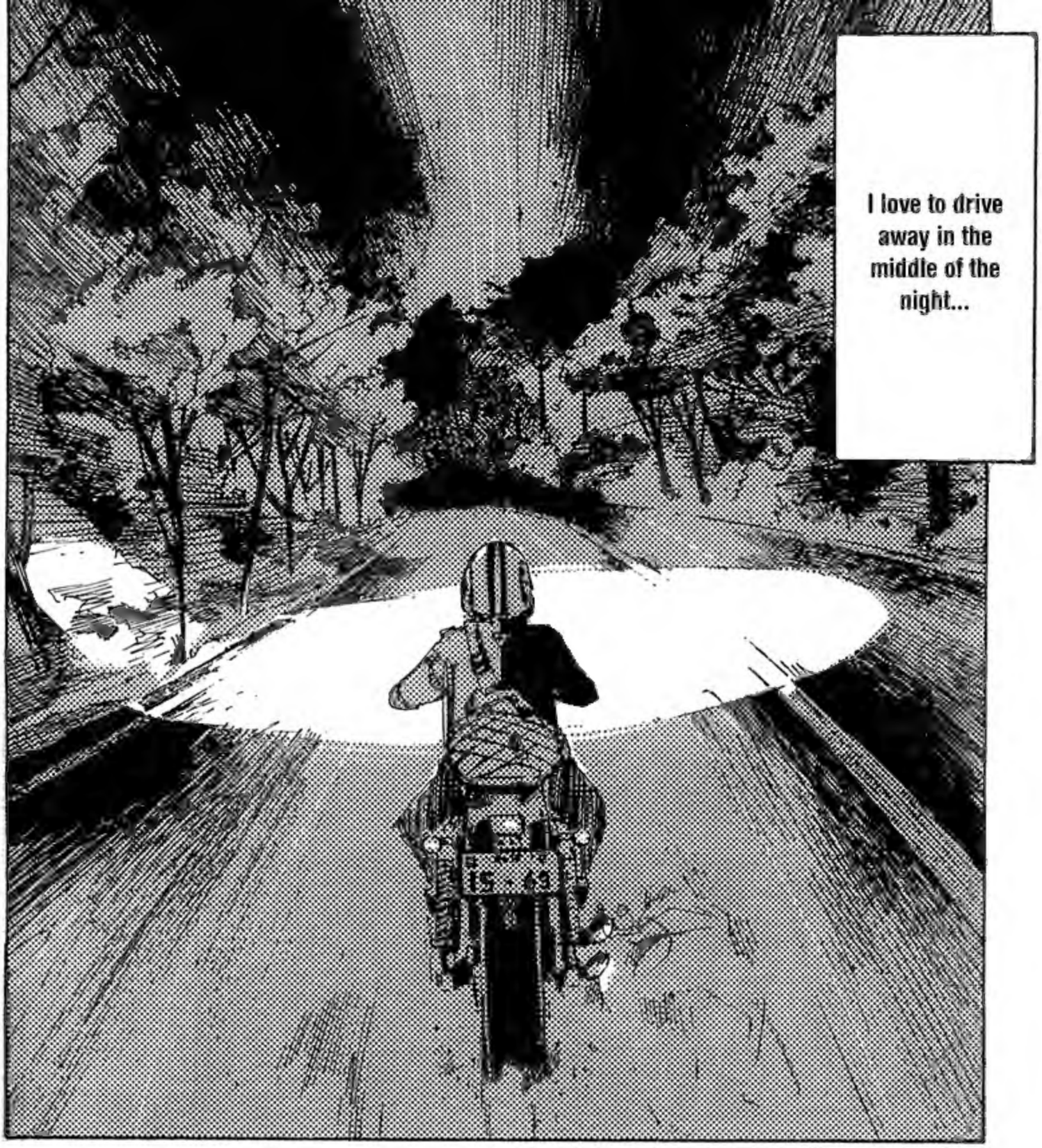
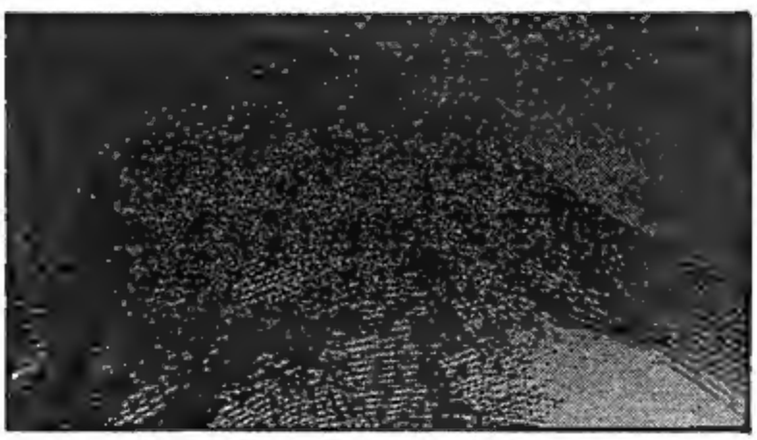
猫田イチゴ
nekota ichigo
The Young Jump debut work of the rumored comic artist!!
あの、噂の漫画家がヤンジャン初登場!!
Emergency Ad Hoc Publication!
相馬周子（ソウマシュウコ）
Page 27.
27歳。
デッド★フラワーズ
PART 1 OF 2
DEAD FLOWERS

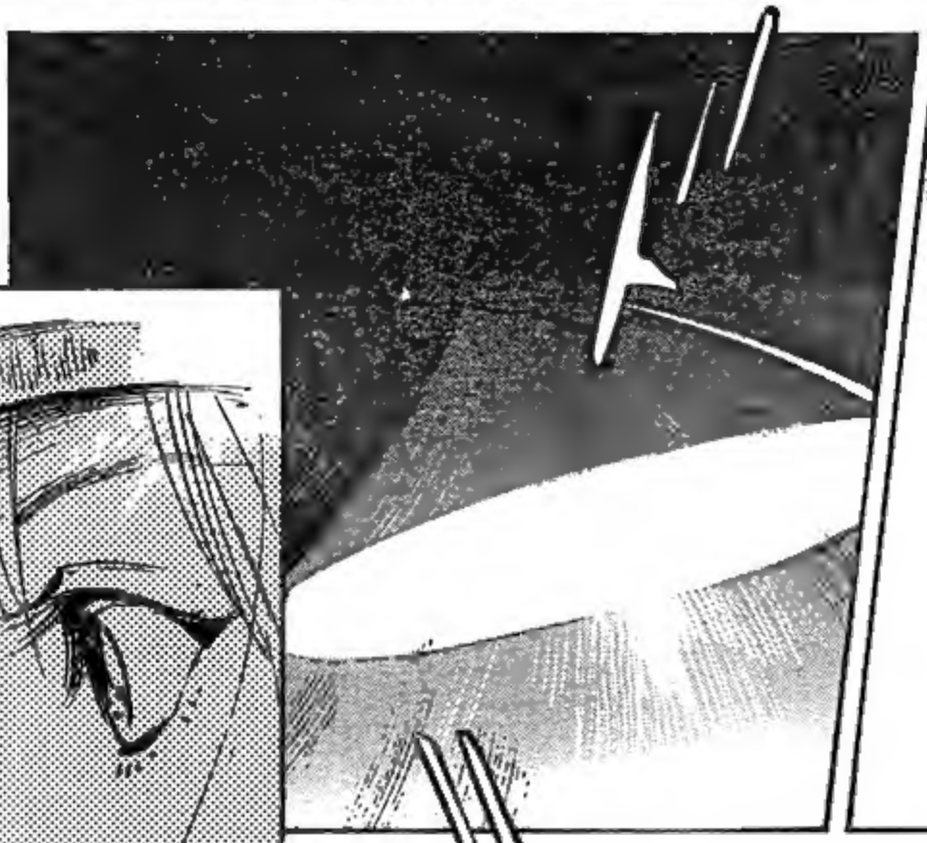
I'm leaving the outside world behind...
With fire in the engine...
I don't even mind the icy wind...

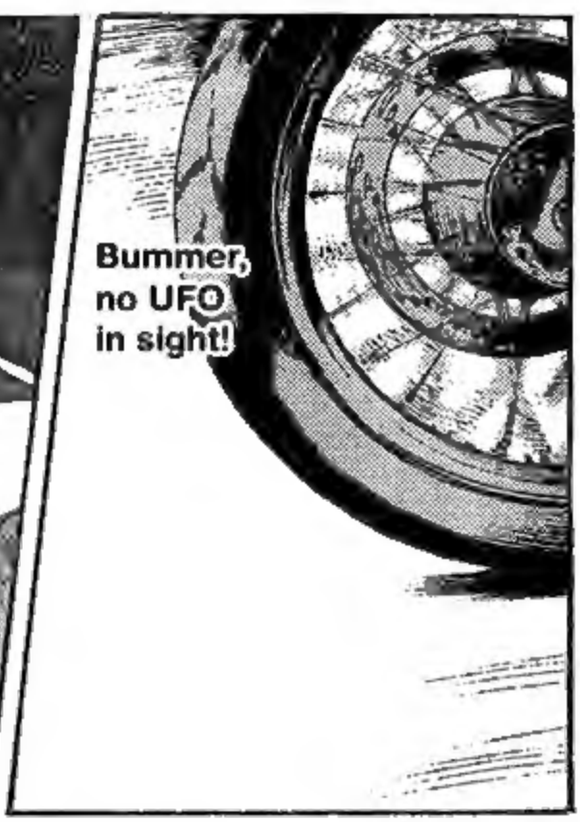


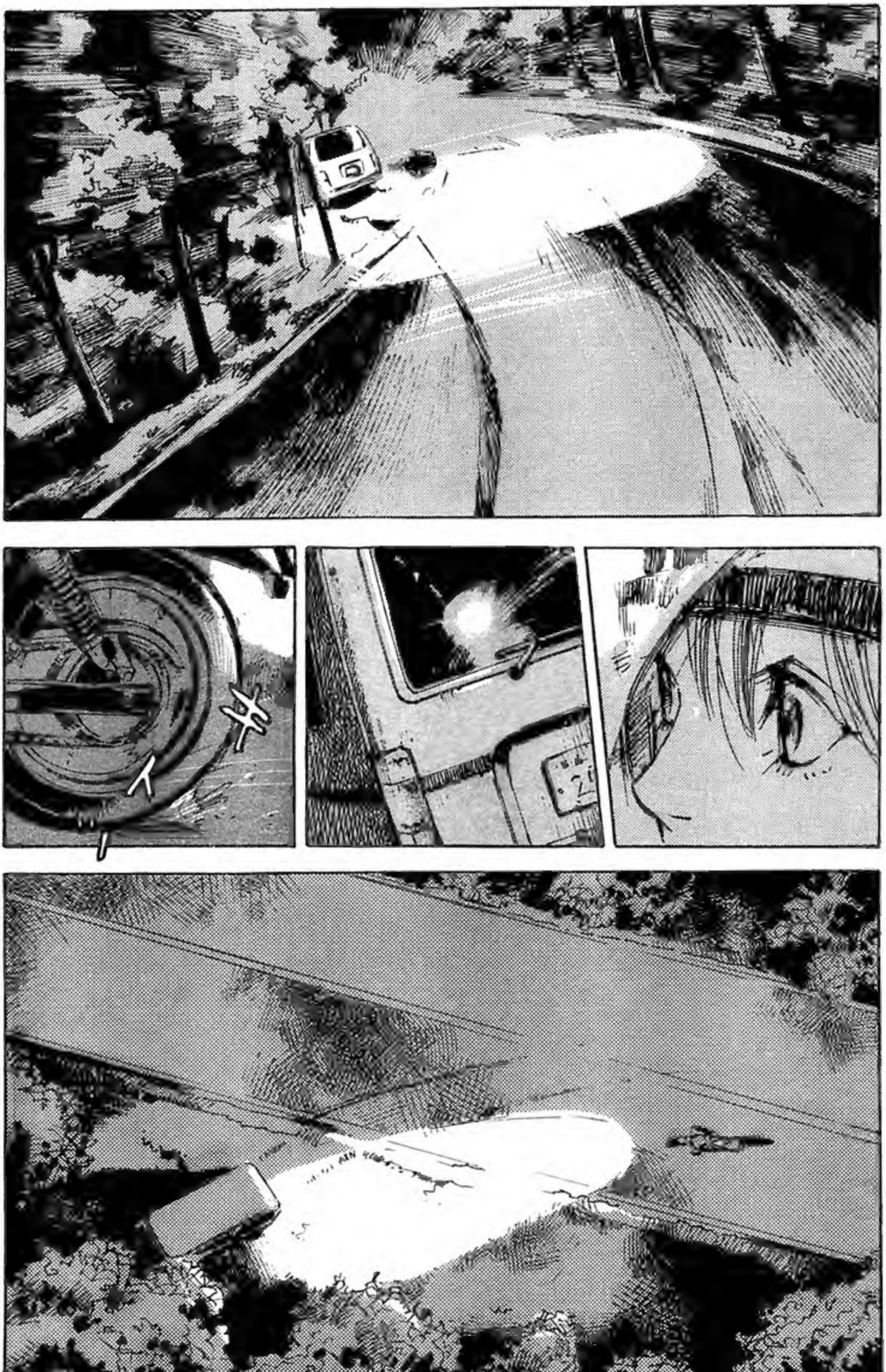
Escape



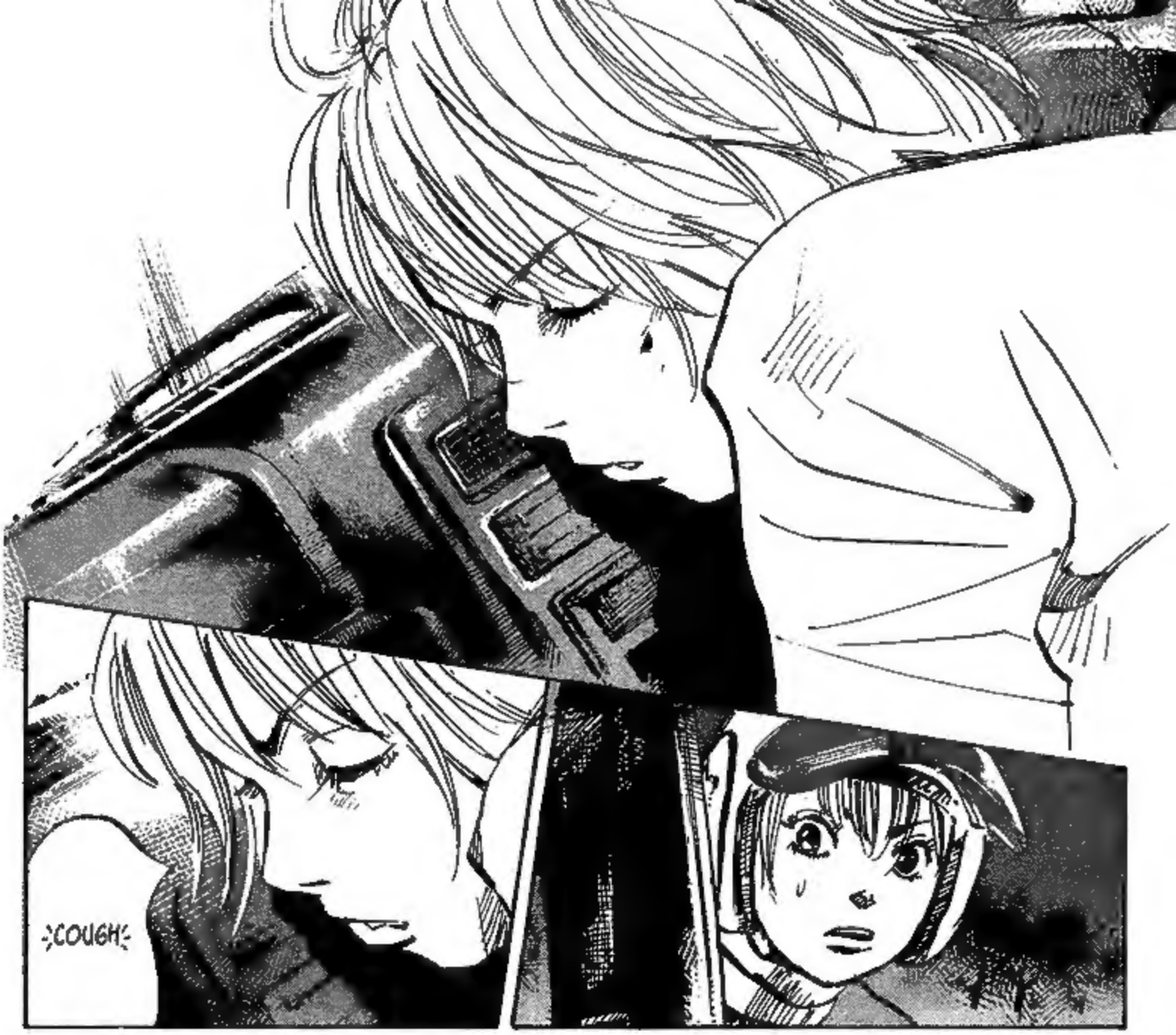
Mount Fuji
looks eerie
at night.



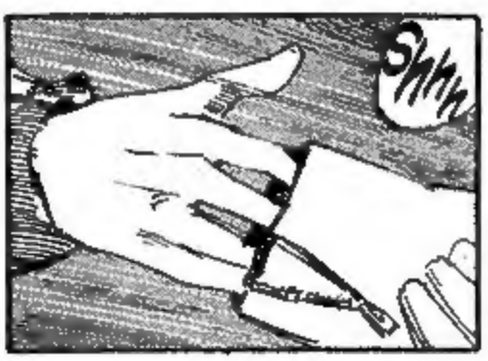

Bummer,
no UFO
in sight!



An accident ...!?
Oh... no!
SHUD

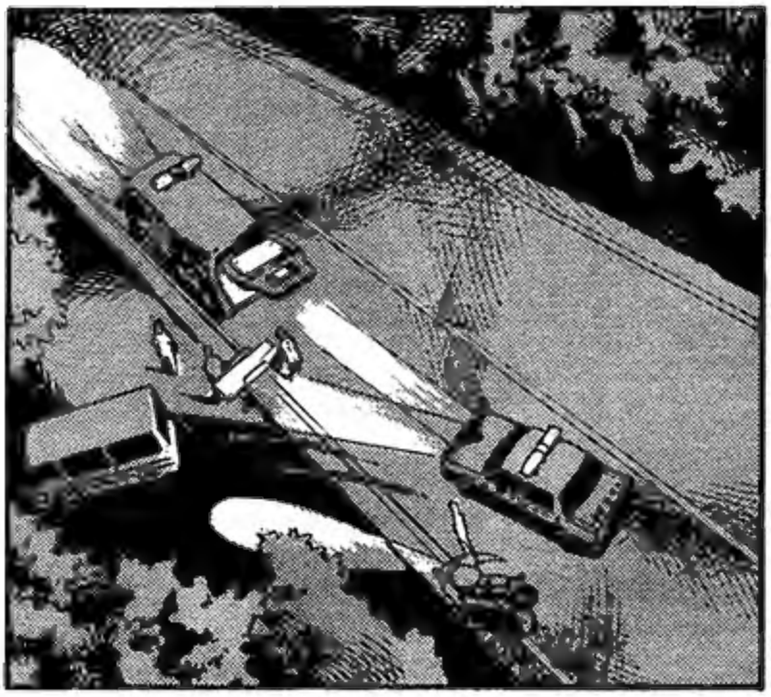

:COUGH:

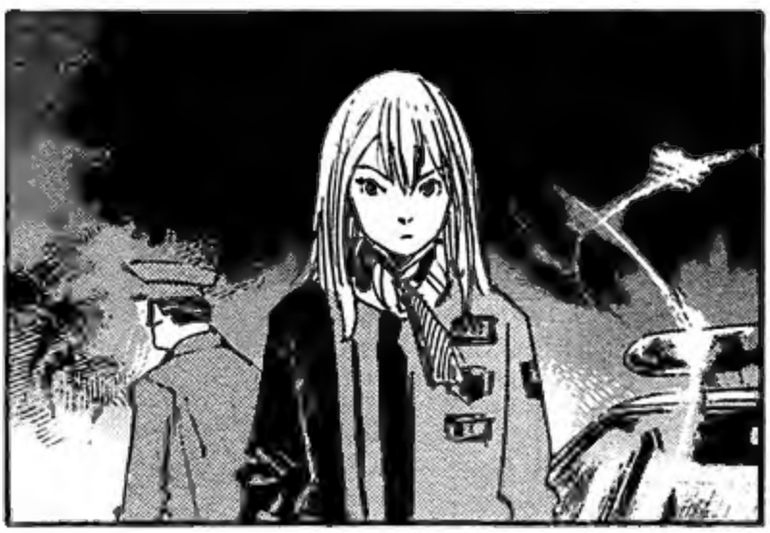
H-hello ...
I need an ambu-lance!


Shhh

He's still alive!

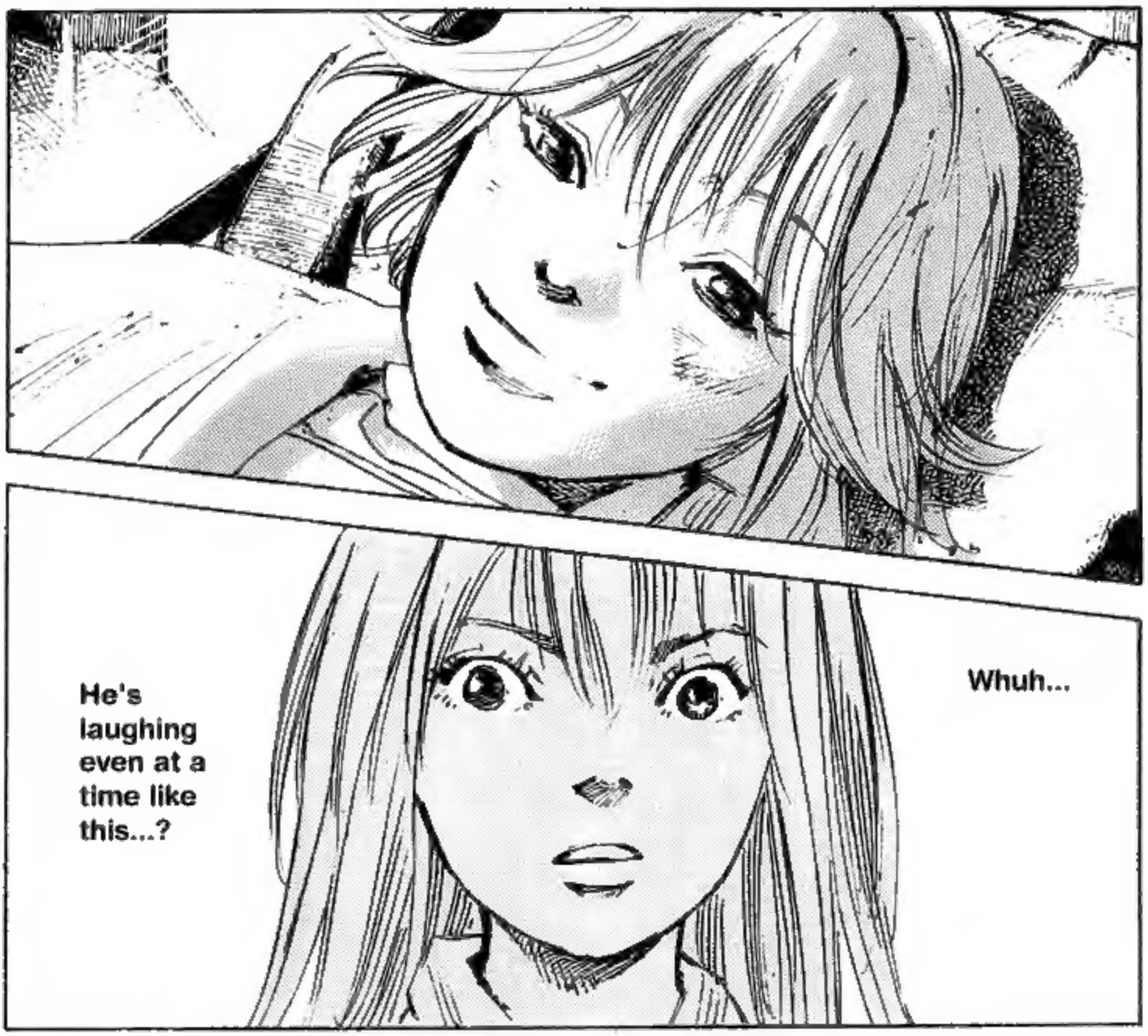
He's still breathing...





clunk
clunk
clunk

ピーポー
ピーポー
HMPH


He's laughing even at a time like this...?
Whuh...

Hello.

My name's Ayuhara.

I'm Souma.

I can't thank you enough for what you did for my little brother last night.

He's being examined for the concussion to his head...

But I don't think it'll turn out to be anything serious.

I see. That's good news.

It's really impressive that you can ride such a big bike...

Hah hah, I can ride it all right...

...but I wouldn't be able to raise the beast up off the ground*. It's a great feeling to be able to escape from the city by myself though.

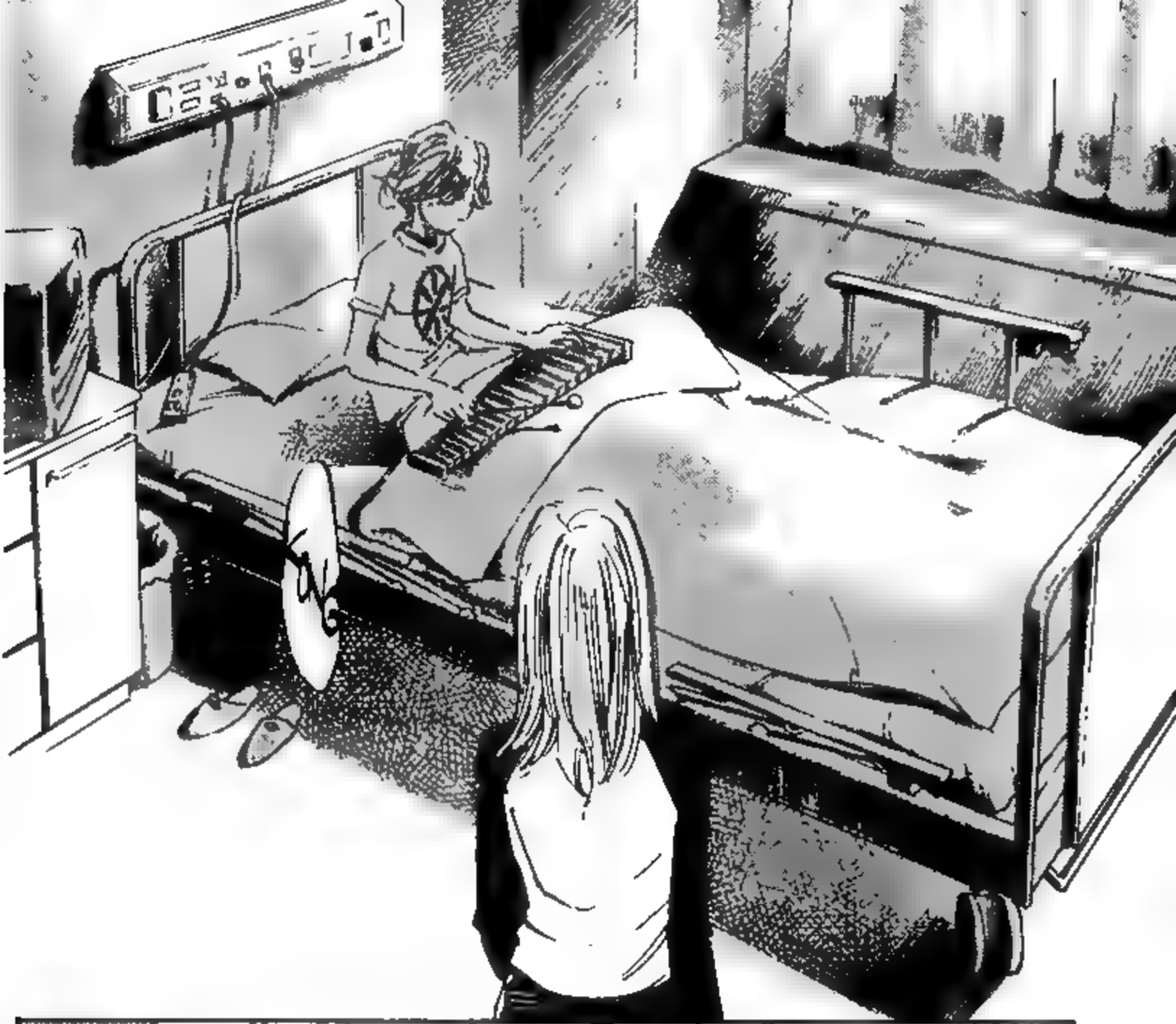
* **Note:** In Japan, it's mandatory for every motorbike driver's license applicant to be able to raise up a motorbike lying on the ground. This should ensure that the driver can move his/her bike off the street after an accident so s/he doesn't hold up the whole traffic.

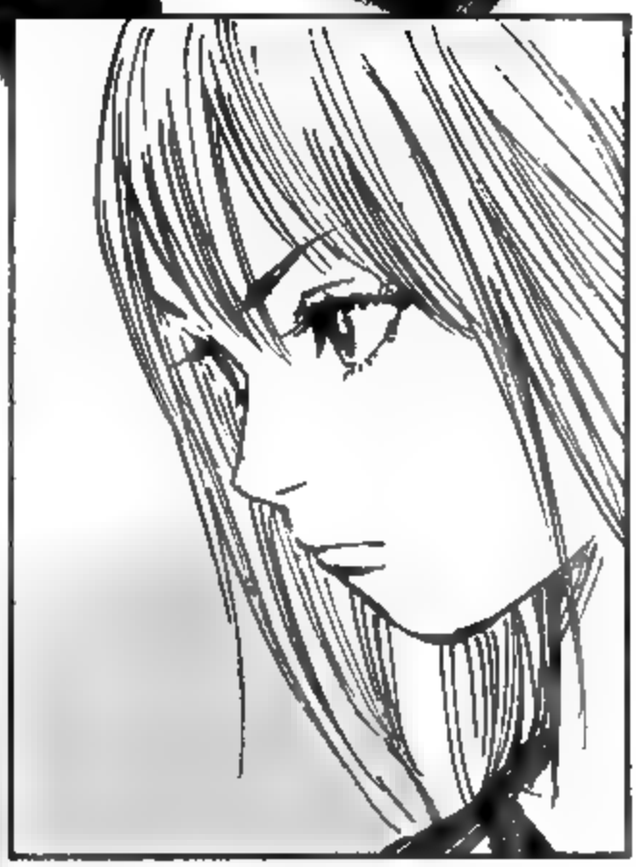
You and I, we're probably about the same age...
Huh? You are ...
My brother often runs away too. Once he's done that, I don't have the slightest idea where he might've gone to.
So he ran away...
You might get along well with Yuuya...
27.
Oh, same as me!
Say ...
Do you want to go out for lunch?
I know a good restaurant in this neighborhood.
OK!

Wow ...
This is really good!
By the way...
You said earlier your brother'd often run away...
May I ask from where?
So?
Glad you like it.
From reality?
Yes.
From reality.

When my brother was five ...
...we lost our parents in an accident.
The people around him tried to keep the accident a secret from my brother for more than one year.
They probably meant it well, but ...
...it was a big shock for my brother when he found out the truth. Thenceforth, his delusions and self-deceptions grew stronger day by day.
That's why he doesn't get along...
...with them.
He has created his own world.
He accepts his own lies...
...but not ones from other people.

Would you do me a favor?
Could you go meet my brother?
HM
Dead Flowers
Hun?
I think he'll be amazed to meet someone who rides such a big bike.
Hmm ...
We might not be on the same level, but I think I understand a bit how he feels.
He said he could see sound particles.





Hey, can I open the window?
Sure.
KONG
Its sounds reminded me of heart-beats.
Huh?

The sounds ...
...of that bike.
Tmp
Tmp
Tmp
Like that.
Was that why you laughed?
Laughed?
You were laughing when they carried you away, weren't you?
I was?
Tell me, what do you do usually, Yuuya?

Well, usually ...
I collect sounds.
Sounds?
You collect sounds?
Yeah.
You know, I can see sound particles.

Look.
If I hit a note like this, as the sound-wave is transmitted through the air...
... pearl-like objects rise up.

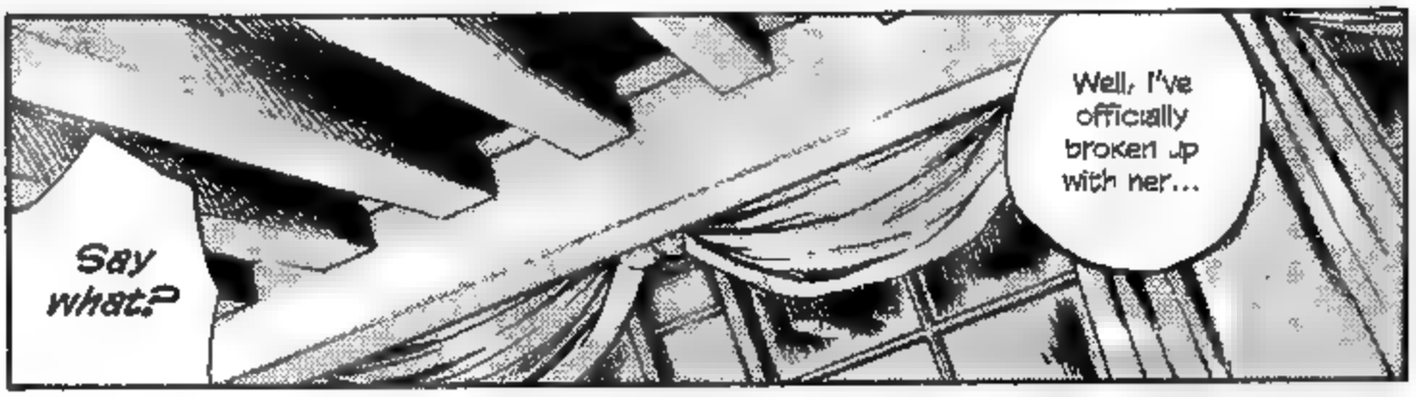
Yeah.
I do.
Do you see them?
When the sound goes away, so do those part cles
And ...
You collect those objects ?

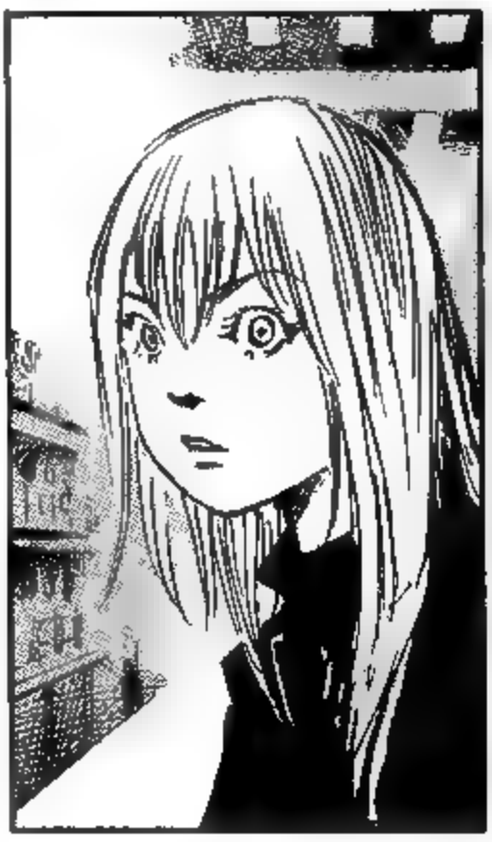
I guess you're right.

Can I think about it some more?
But a movie made by a comic artist? I don't know...
Maybe I should give it a shot too.
In Shibuya.
Hey, I watched that new movie "Ichigo no kakera" yesterday. Manabu Oshio's one hot guy I tell you.
Huh, and where did you watch it?
Public
Hey, Shuuko. Wanna come along tonight?
Sorry, girls.
I've already got plans for tonight.

Did you go somewhere else instead?
Yeah
I took a ride on my bike
Your bike again, huh
What?
Are you saying I should stop doing that?
Alright, sir.
You still want to have your freedom
Well, what do you suggest I do when you're back with your wife, anyway?
Are you lovelike to you when I sleep at home?

Not becoming closer, not drifting apart...

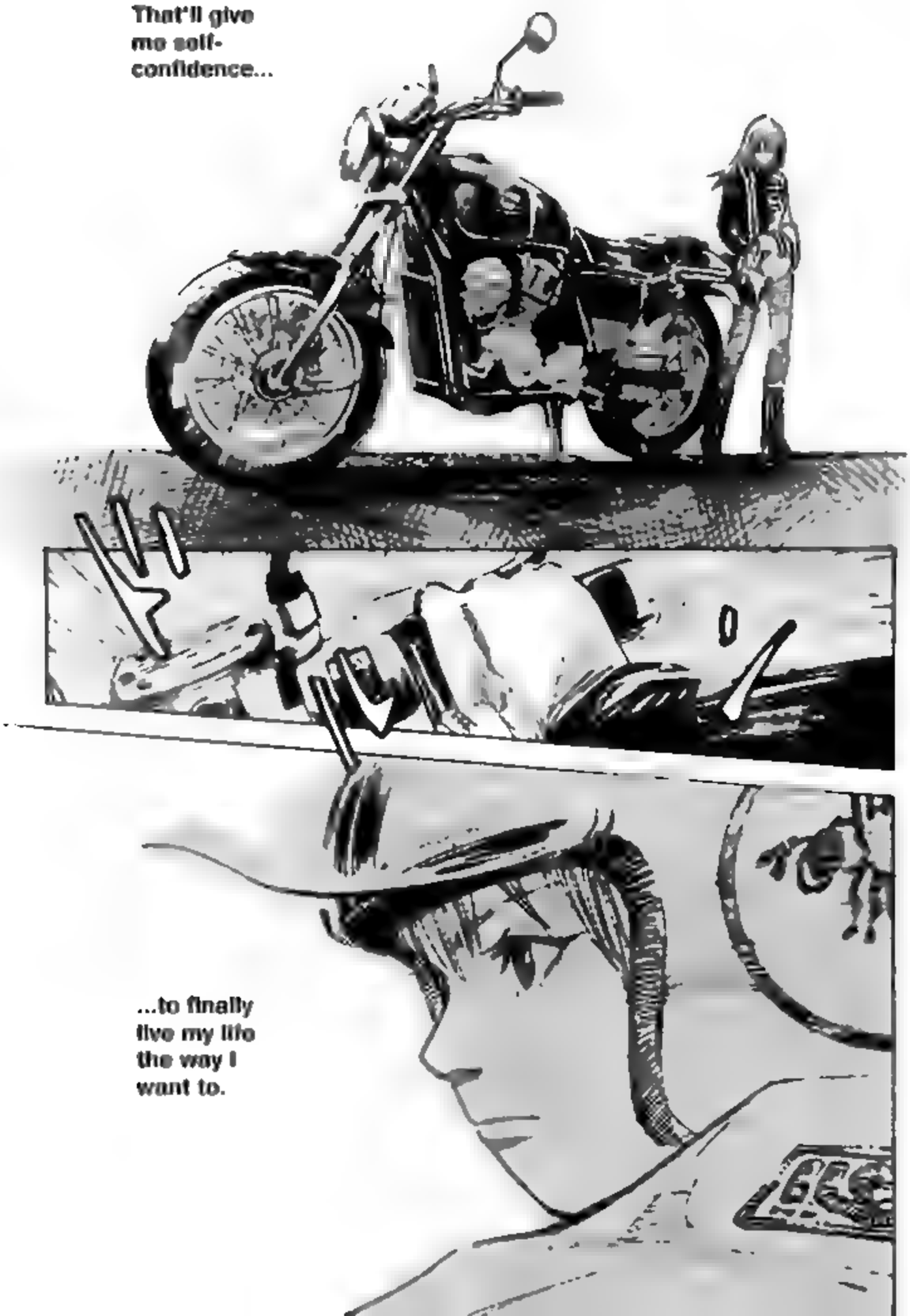




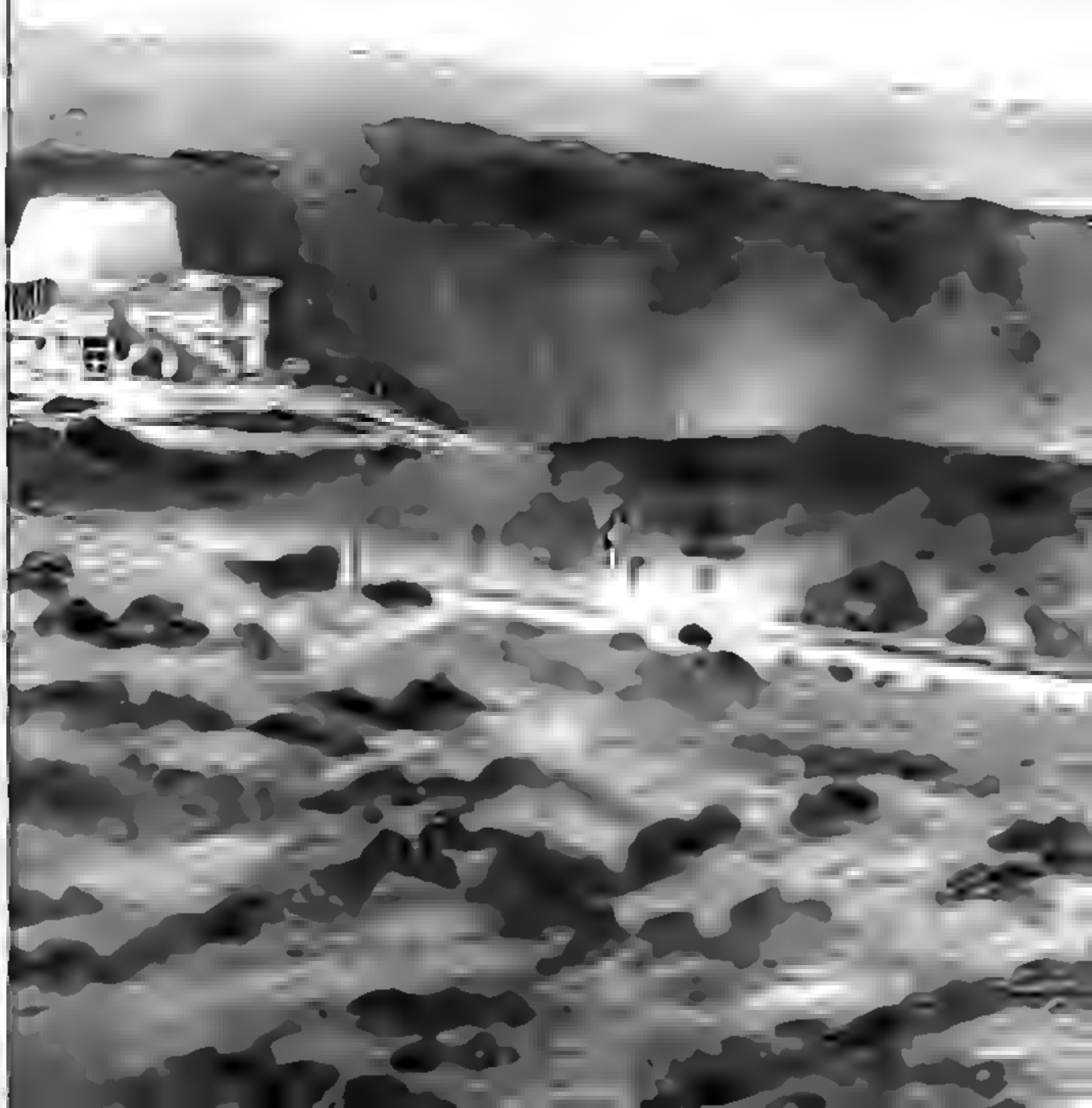
Can I think about it some more?
Sorry.
Of course.
Think as much as you like.
I will neither run nor ride.

What are you doing now?
I'll go home for today
Why was he unhappy in his relation-ship?
See ya.
He probably didn't like to be tied down by the married life.
Maybe he was only having this affair to get one over on his wife
What should I do?
But that doesn't mean that I want to get married.
I love him.

To Mount Fuji...
You're drivin' out a lot in this cold weather.
MOTOBIKE SHOP
Dead Flowers
So, where are we off to today?
Alright. Every-thing's OK now.
Yuuya is no ordinary child...
If his music's indeed wonder-ful...
MOTOBIKE


That'll give me self-confidence...
...to finally live my life the way I want to.

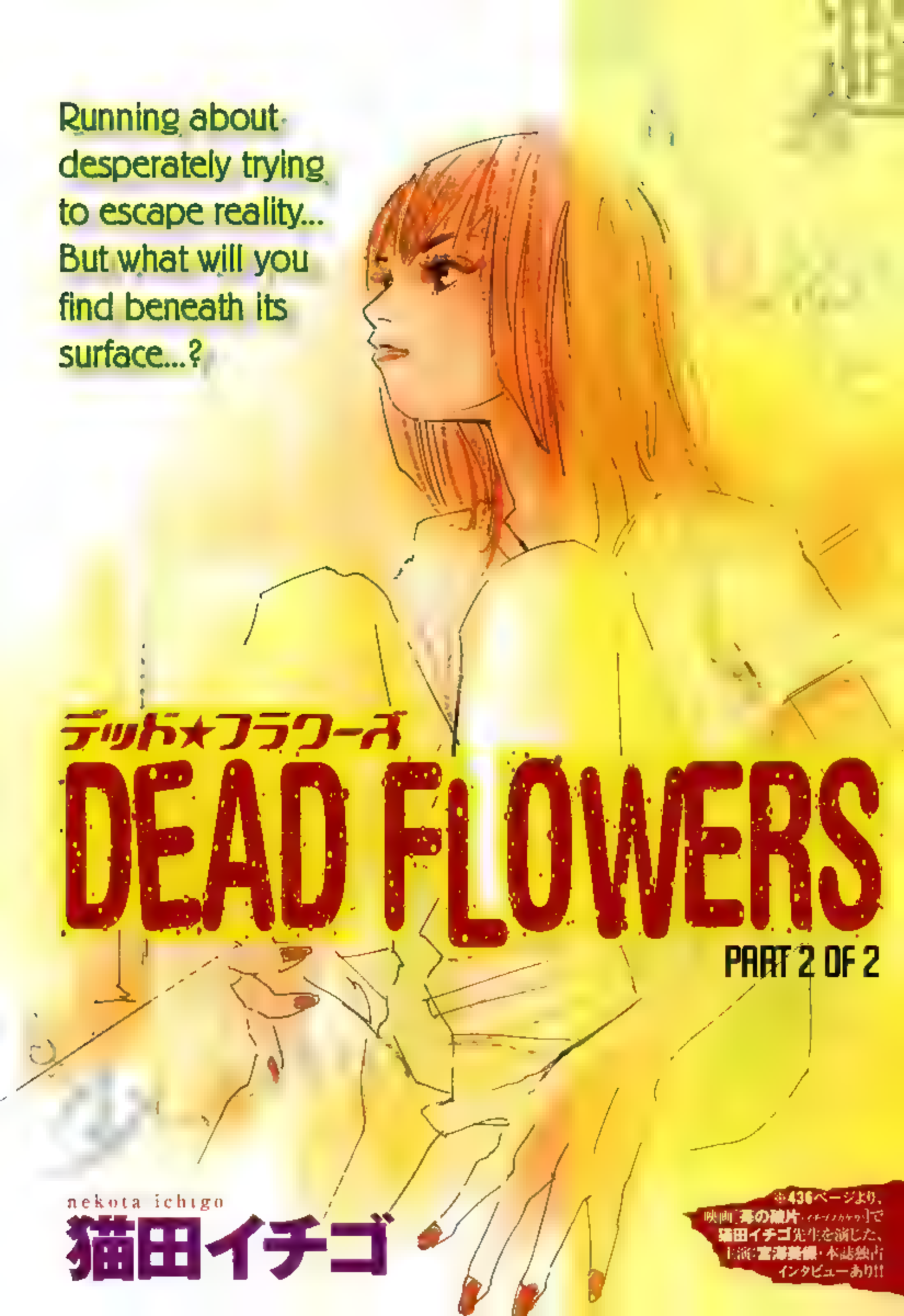
I don't want
to be a liar...



Escape 2

To be continued...

Running about desperately trying to escape reality... But what will you find beneath its surface...?



デッド★フラワーズ

DEAD FLOWERS

PART 2 OF 2

nekota ichigo

猫田イチゴ

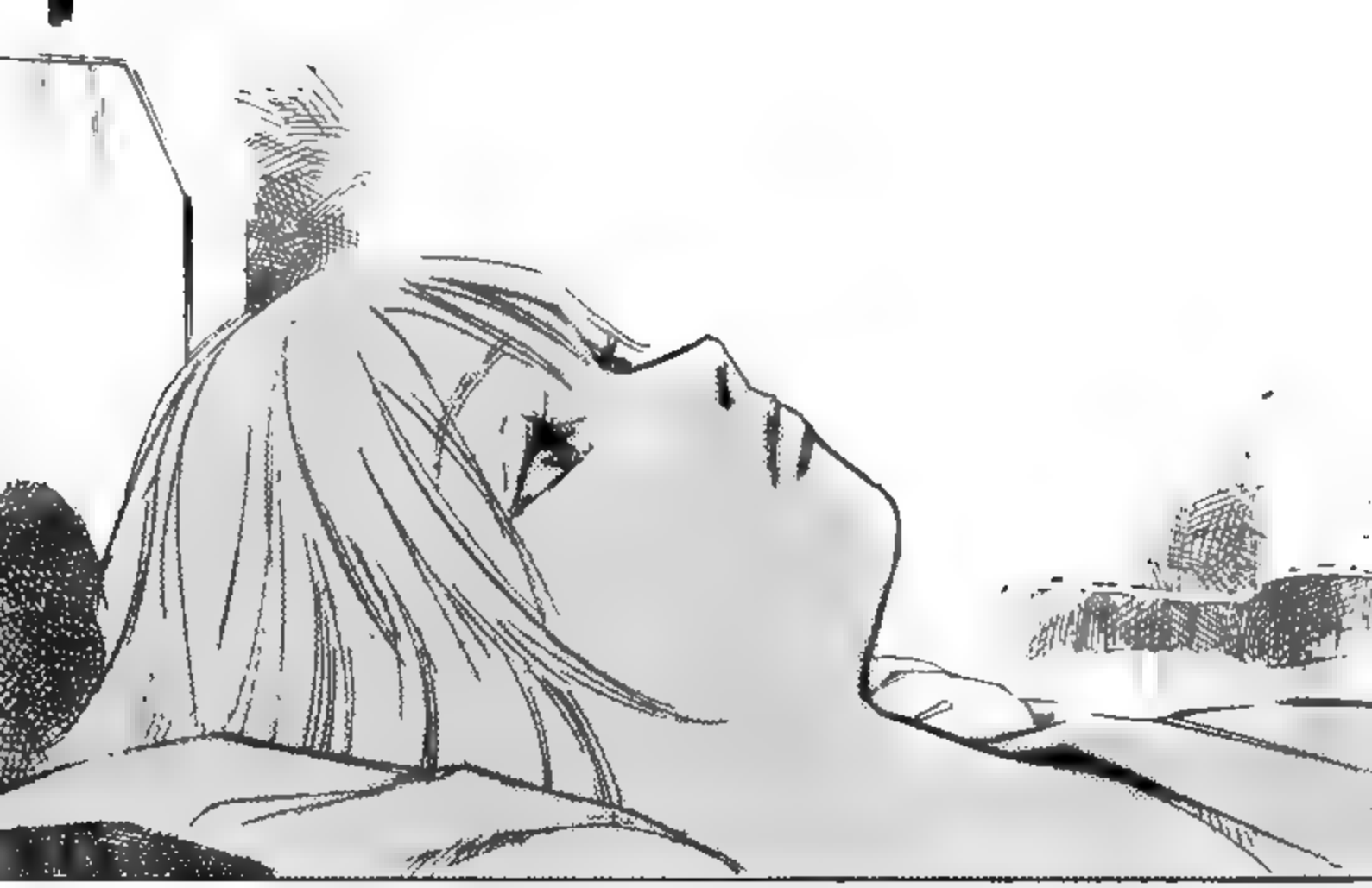
※436ページより、
映画『春の欠片（イチノカケラ）』で猫田イチゴ先生を演じた、主演：富沢雅彦・本誌独占インタビューあり!!

Apparently, Yuuya had attempted to take his life three times before.
I'm Dead Weight...
Suicide...
It's nothing more than being honest about your own feelings...
Unsatisfied?

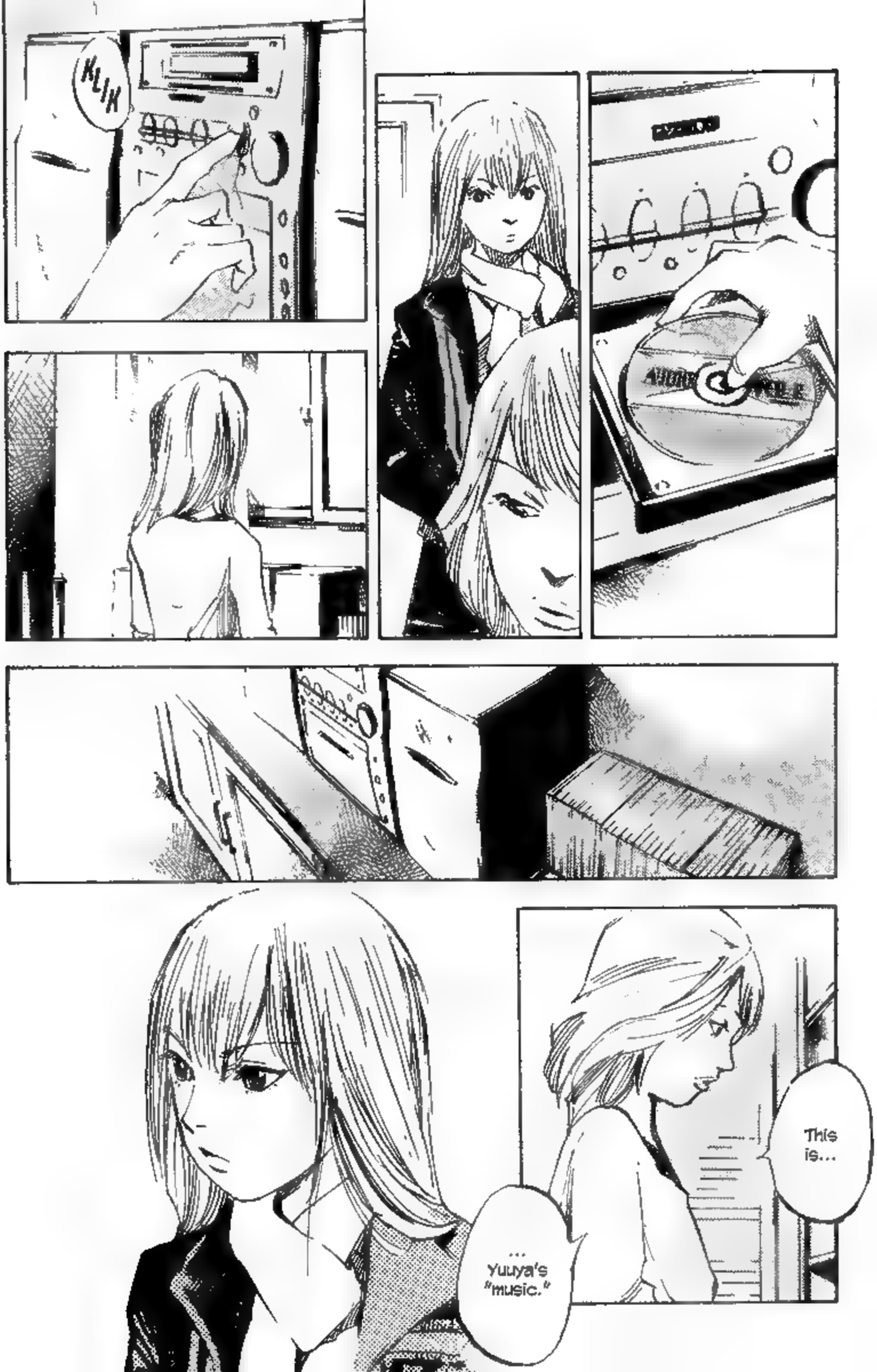
But it wouldn't be fair of you to die.
What are you trying to run from?

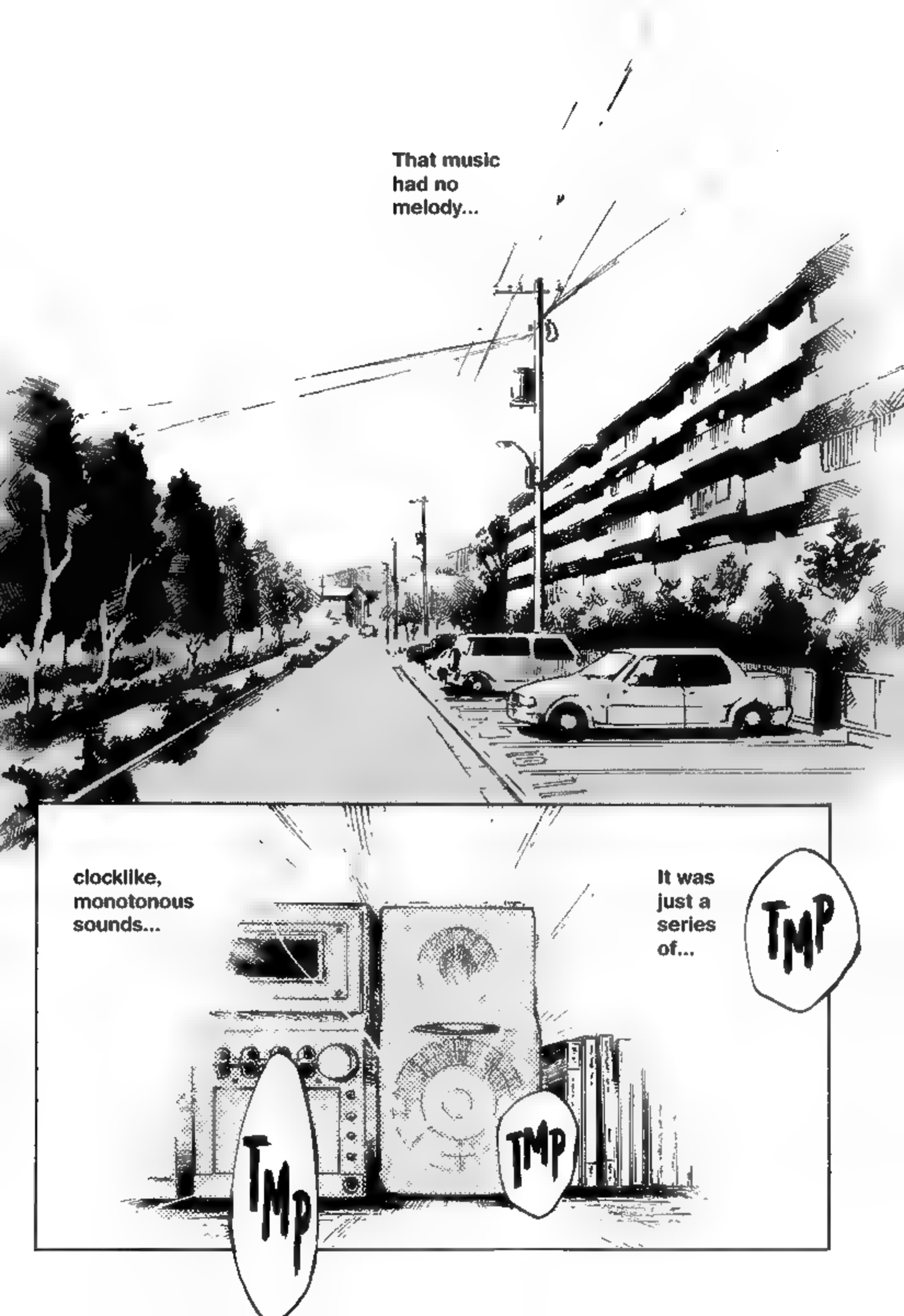
I've gotten used to it
Don't mind me.
What happened is terrible
I'm sorry. You even came all this way here to see him
Even you?
I don't know
That boy has lost all interest in this world.
He also refuses to open himself up to the surrounding people who cherished him

He doesn't trust people.
But he's interested in music, isn't he?
Should we listen to them ?
I mean Yuuya's sounds ...
Yeah.



Heartbeats


KLIK
This is...
... Yuuya's "music."


That music had no melody...
clocklike, monotonous sounds...
It was just a series of...
TMP
TMP
TMP

Heart-beats

Can I borrow the CD ?
Sure.
But it's no fun listening to it.
That bike's sounds reminded me of heart-beats ...
TMP
TMP
TMP
Still ...
I've got the feeling that these sounds are very impor-tant.
Self-confidence

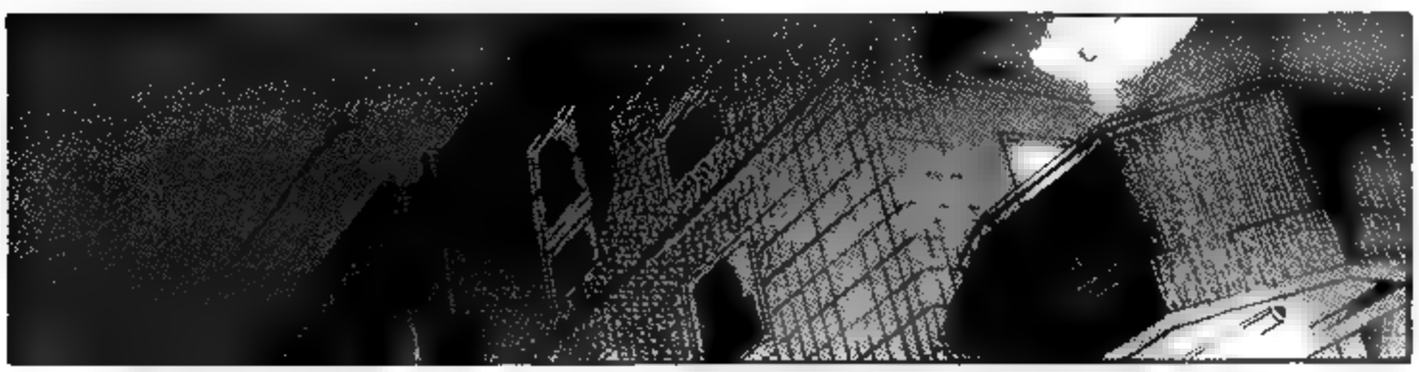
What do I really want to do anyway?
I keep making you under one excuse or another

You've been like this since the first time I met you, Shuuko.
Well, why don't we just keep this goin' then?
Marriage's merely a matter of form, anyway.
You want to get noticed among people, but as soon as responsibility comes into play you pack up and run off
I told you, that's not true
This project fits you perfectly, wouldn't you say, Shuuko?
You're good at outdoor activities after all
And who was the one who said I'd be perfect that way, huh?
You don't make any attempt to use an opportunity

Self-confidence ...
Uuu...
Heh, heh.
You sound like my ex...
Then what did you mean?
Opening yourself to people around you, accepting responsibility...
Getting married ...
You don't have the self-confidence to deal naturally with those common things.

Which also explains why I keep running away on my bike...

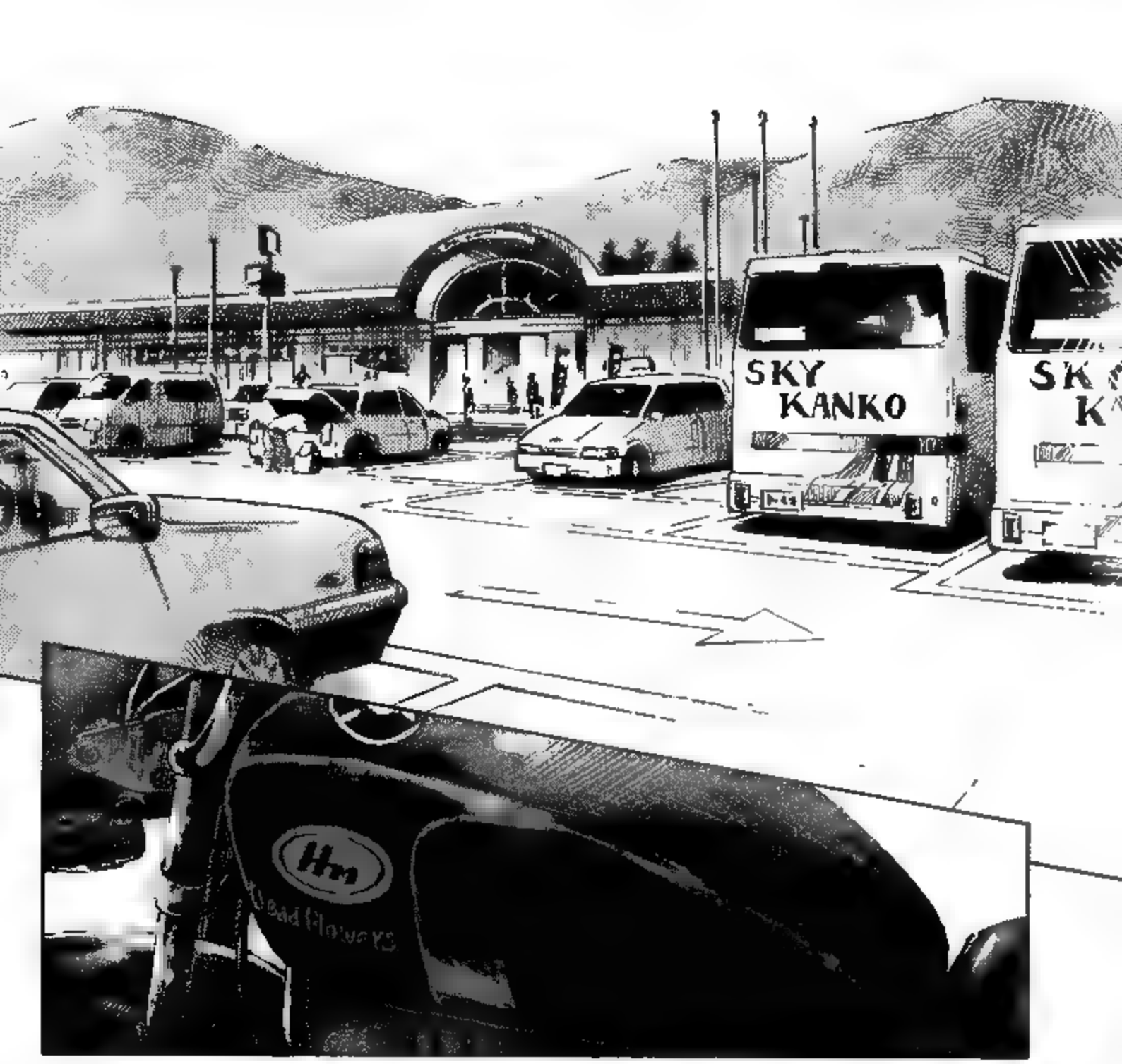
Maybe everything he said about me was right...

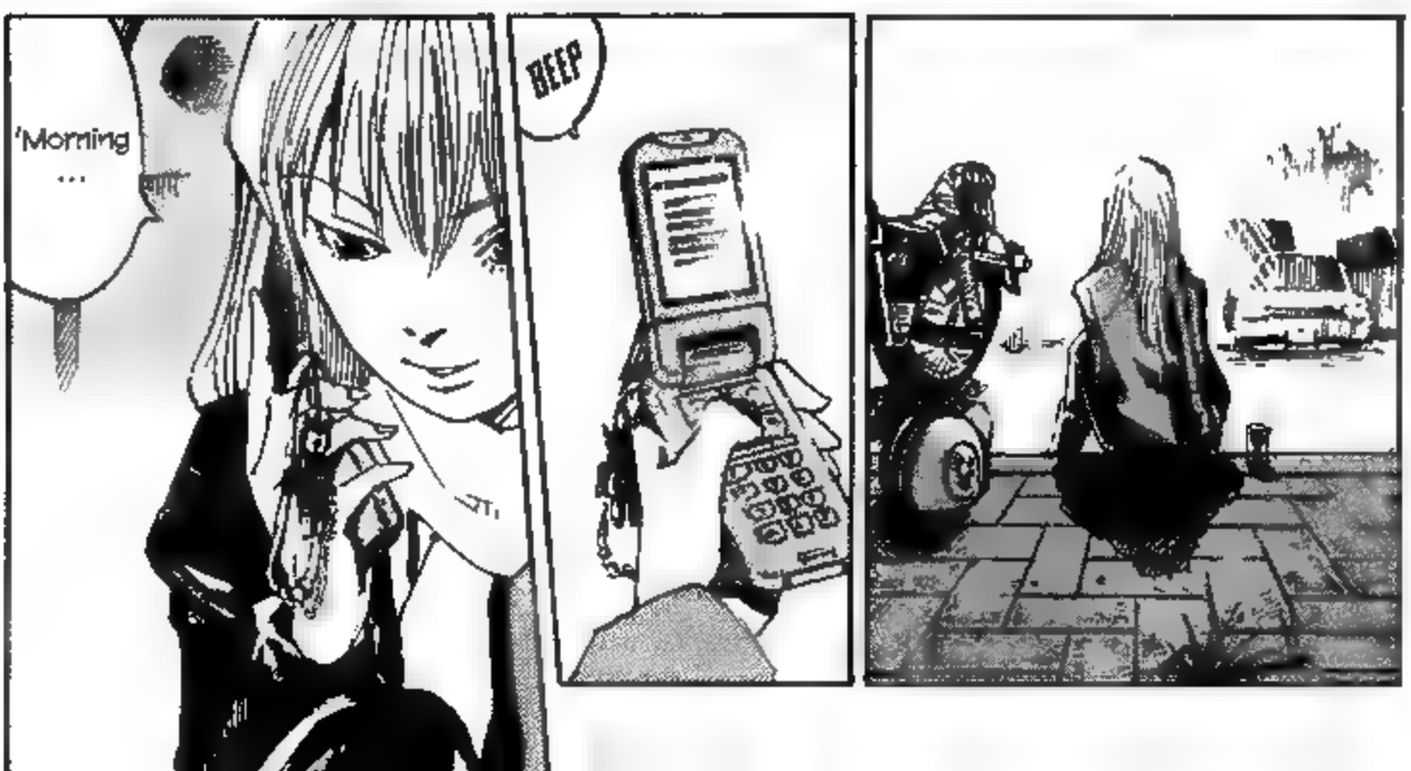


Self-confidence ...
Can't you live without it?
How many times more will this heart beat?
TMP
It's beating regardless of my will.
...to deal naturally with...
...those common things...

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
Oh...

TMP
TMP
TMP
I see...


SKY
KANKO

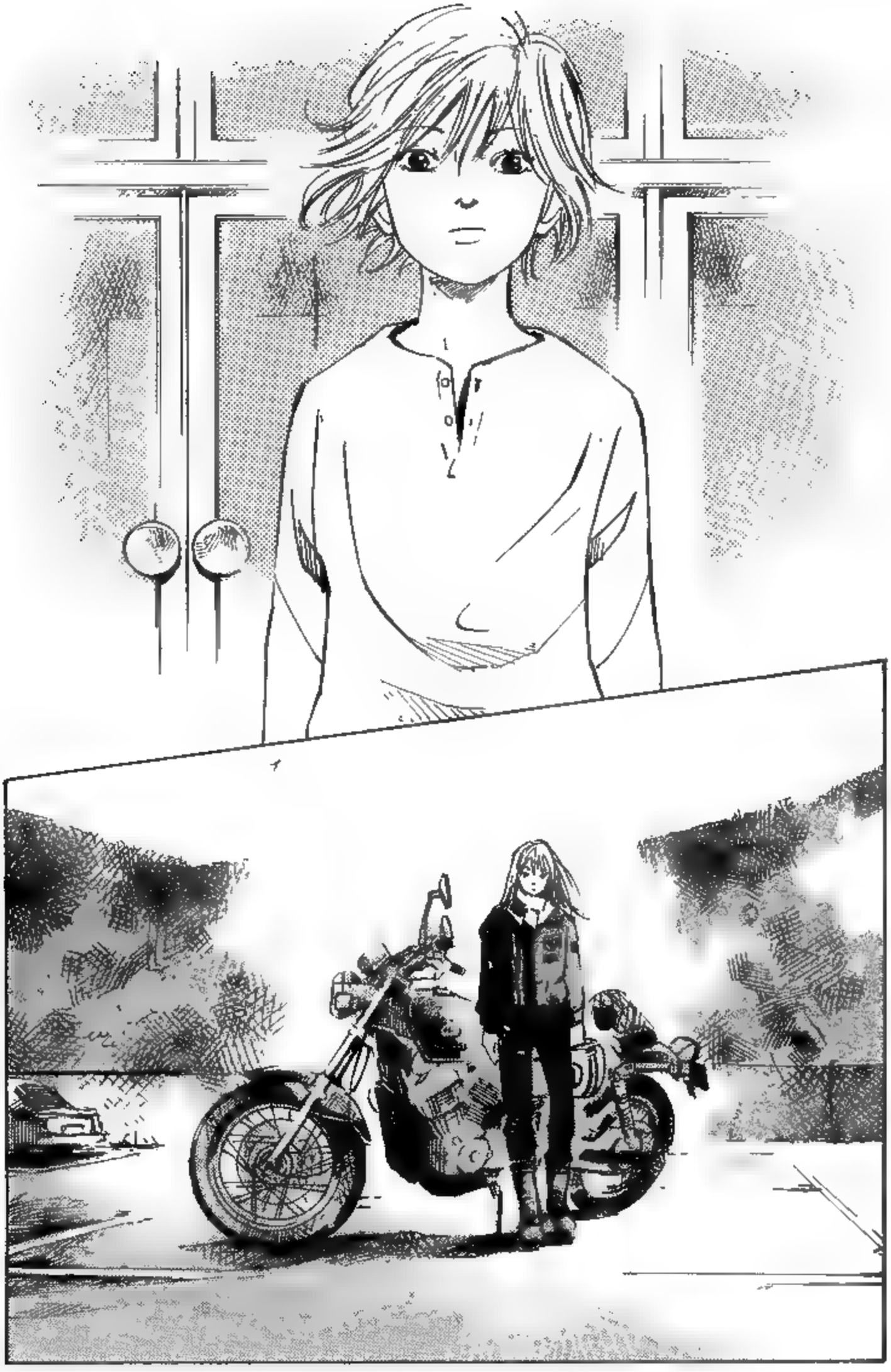

'Morning
...
BEEP

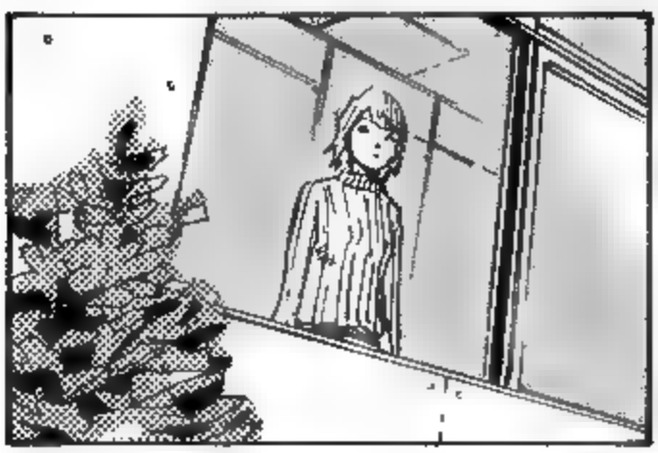
* One of the rest areas on the Chuo Expressway. It lies about 70 km from Center of Tokyo.

You'll let me have some of your self-confidence.

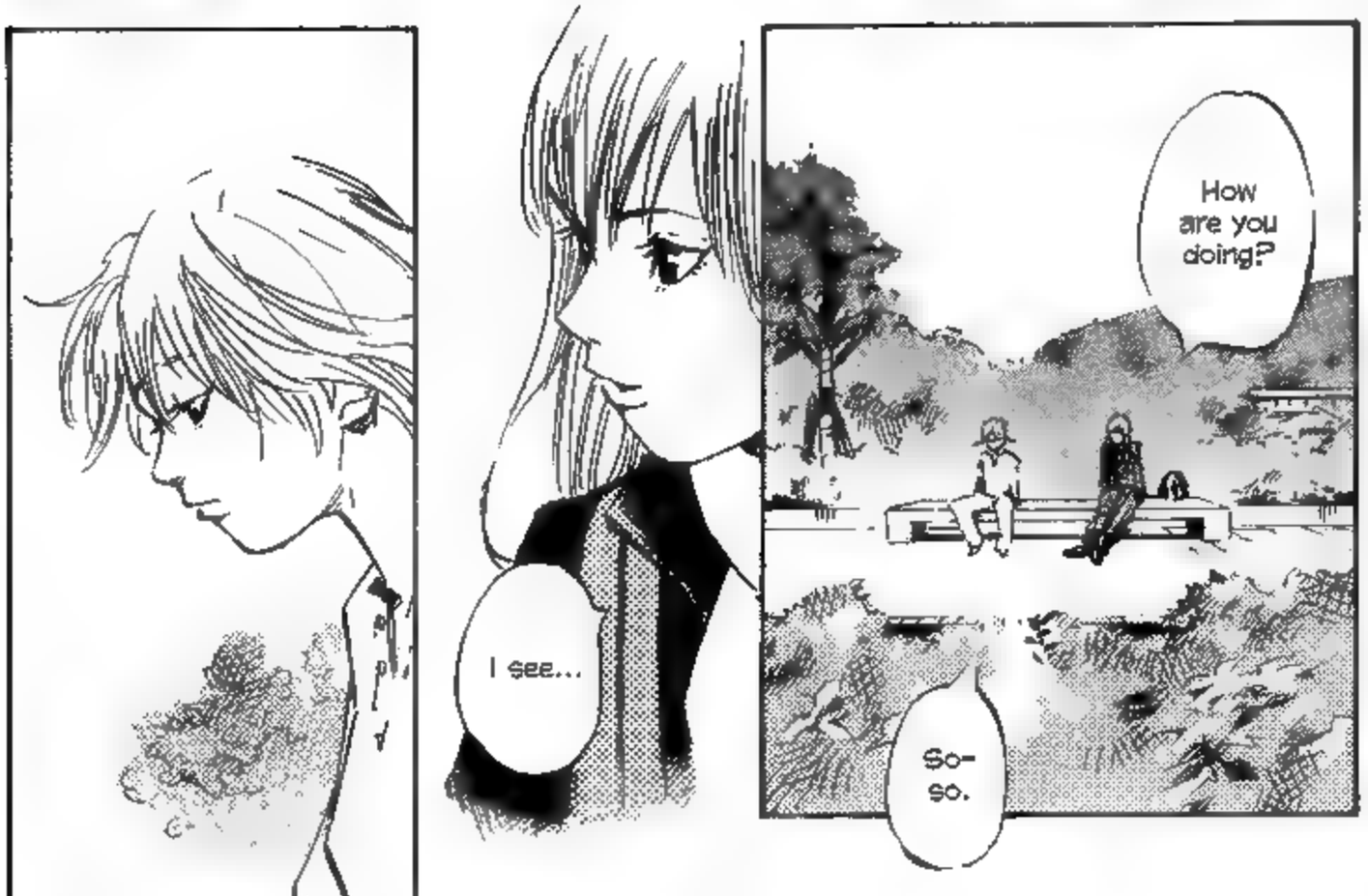
What-ever you want...
Okay, then I'd love to come with you...
Well then, I'm gonna take a little ride today.
Take care of yourself.
Hah hah nah ...
You've become serious at last.

Ignition



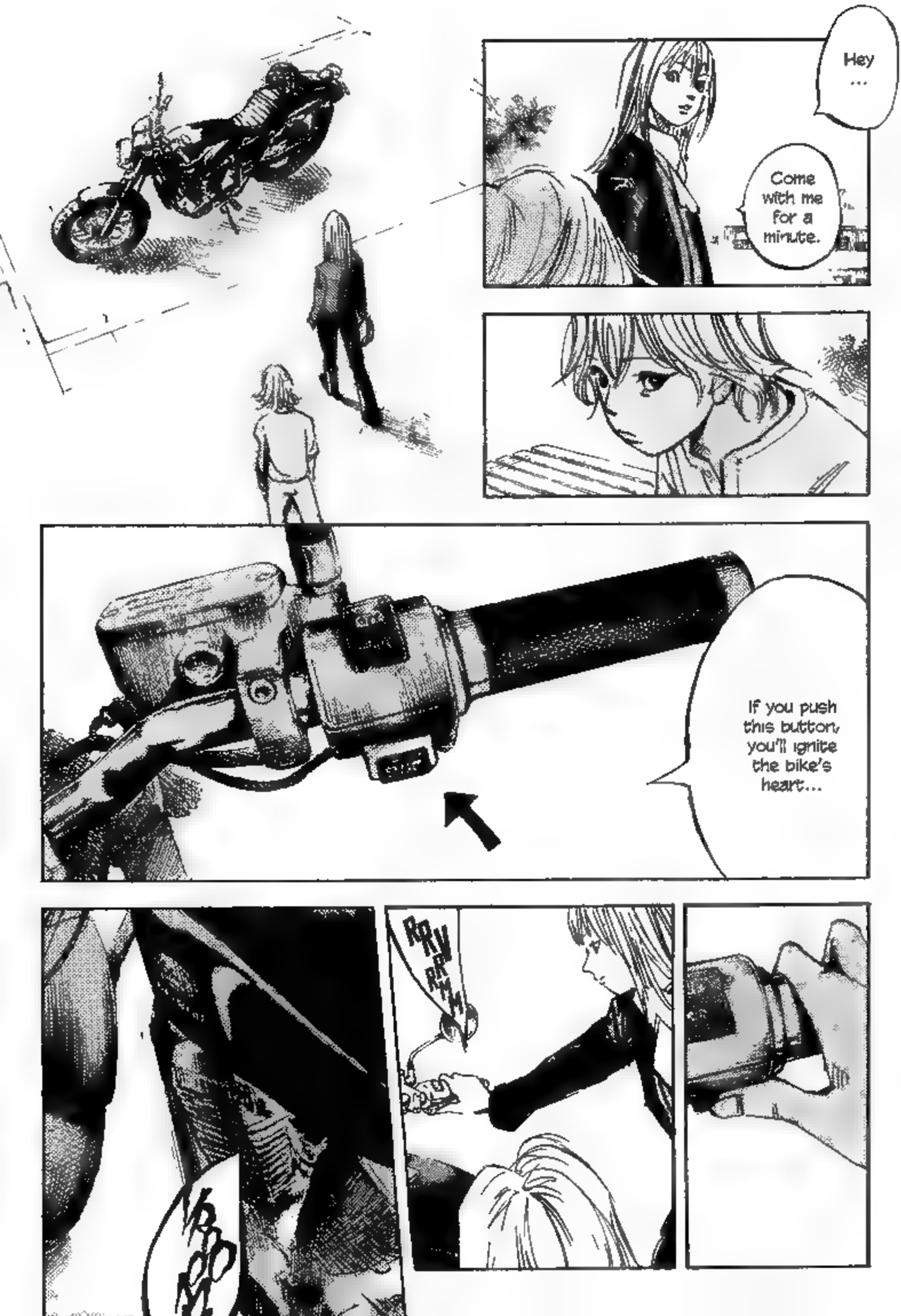


Shall we sit down?
OK.


How are you doing?
I see...
So-so.

Why?
Why did you try to stop your own heartbeats?
The sounds you've been collecting... They're your parents' heartbeats, aren't they?
Yay!
You've got it.
Congratulations

In a world full of liars...
...your own heart must've become something that you loathe.
It beats on its own, just like that...
Yes.
It keeps me alive even though there's nothing worth living for.


Hey ...
Come with me for a minute.
If you push this button, you'll ignite the bike's heart...
RRRRRRR

GRR
RR-VROOM
RVROM
You can control it as you like...
VROOOMM

Shall we go for a little ride?

To the world ahead...
OK.

I wonder what'll await us there...

デッド★フラワーズ

DEAD FLOWERS

Fin

Ichigo Nekota